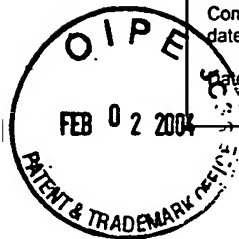


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: 1/30/04

Signature: Judy Bridgewater
(Judy Bridgewater)

Docket No.: 313632000501
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Wilhelmus Everhardus HENNINK, et al.

Application No.: 10/020,627

Filed: December 6, 2001

For: HYDROLYSABLE HYDROGELS FOR
CONTROLLED RELEASE

Art Unit: 1617

Examiner: E. Webman

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated October 6, 2003 (Paper No. 11), for which a response was due on January 6, 2004. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a one month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to February 6, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

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